

Amendment
Application Filed: May 1, 2006
Serial No: 10/560,411

REMARKS

The above-captioned patent application was filed with nine claims. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by a United States patent application having publication number US 2002/0171954 (the '954 reference). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The '954 reference discloses and claims a rear view mirror assembly 200. The mirror sub-assembly 200 includes a mirror and a printed circuit board 206 having a flexible circuit board having electric heater element tracings printed on the front side of the circuit board 206. Finger extensions 215a, 215b have conductive tracings printed thereon allowing electrical connection between the printed circuit board 206 and connector clips 216a, 216b, which, in turn, couple the printed circuit board 206 to bus bar clips 202, 204.

Claim 1, as amended to clarify the amendment, claims a vehicle outside mirror module with a heatable mirror glass assembly group. The mirror glass assembly group 10 includes at least one mirror glass 11 defining a mirror glass edge 14. A foil-like heating foil 20 is flexible and configured on the back side of the mirror glass 11. The heating foil 20 includes tabs 24 projecting over the mirror glass 11 beyond the mirror glass edge 14. At least one light 60 is disposed on one of the tabs 24 beyond the mirror glass edge 14 such that the main light exit surface 61, 65 of the light 60 defines a spectral centroid rise beyond the mirror back surface and the mirror edge glass 14.

The limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1. As such, the Examiner concedes that not every element of claim 1 is in the '954 reference because the Examiner did not reject claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as was done with the original claim 1.

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For the rejection of claim 2, the Examiner does not use any additional reference. The Examiner does, however, cite In re Gazda, 219 F.2d 449, 104 USPQ 400 (CCPA 1955). In this case, the court decided that how a clock is mounted to a steering wheel or a steering wheel post “is only a matter of choice amounting to a mere reversal of parts,” *Id* at 402 (USPQ). Citation of this reference is inappropriate in this instance as the facts of the case can be distinguished from the issues present in the above-captioned patent application. More specifically, the '954 reference teaches completely away from putting the lights on the tabs of the printed circuit board. The '954 reference is dedicated to describing how the lights are shown through transparent portions of the mirror glass. Therefore, one cannot say that putting the lights on a different structure is a mere reversal of parts because the teachings of the '954 reference are directed to an embodiment that allows light to be transmitted through the glass, not around it.

While the '954 reference does disclose a mirror assembly having a printed circuit board with tabs that allow for the electrical connection of the printed circuit board to the wire harness of the motor vehicle, it does not disclose nor suggest the movement of the lights from behind the transparent portions of the mirror glass into the mirror housing. Therefore, claim 1, as amended to clarify the invention, and all claims depending therefrom, overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103.

It is respectfully submitted that this patent application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee associated with this
Communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0852.

Respectfully submitted,

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